

The Bassano Mail

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May God forbid our saying on this page the things that merely please. We would be humble in our opinions; we would be considerate of the opinions of others; but we would not be unimpaired by the inevitable law of cause and effect; for therein lies the wisdom of the ages.

CLASH OF GOVERNMENT ADVISERS

The climax to an eventful few months was reached when Major Douglas, founder of the Social Credit movement, broke off relations with Premier William Aberhart and the Social Credit government of Alberta, and resigned as adviser.

Obviously Major Douglas was displeased at the appointment of R. J. Major to the position of financial adviser to Premier Aberhart. Just what impelled the premier to make this appointment has never been disclosed. But certainly the views of two men of such diametrically opposite outlooks must clash.

The premier explained that Mr. Major was appointed to advise on practical methods of meeting the immediate financial situation, due to an empty treasury and impending maturity of large issues of provincial bonds. Hon. Mr. Aberhart apparently conceived Social Credit to be something apart from the routine of government financing. Faced with facts, rather than theory, he chose what he considered a practical plan of meeting them.

Major Douglas, on the contrary, believed that following orthodox lines was the wrong attitude to take. Judging from the correspondence made public the major suggested leading the debt burden on the federal government in a "take it or leave it" attitude. If the federal government chose to let Alberta default then the burden would be on it.

Another point was that Major Douglas did not desire any tax increase. Also, very likely, he did not favor codes. The code idea was never a part of the Douglas plan, although he envisaged "just prices". But these just prices were described as prices below cost of production, the difference being made up by the government.

Altogether the whole matter is a conflict between two exponents of Social Credit, the founder and his leading disciple. Just what Major Douglas would have done had he been placed in the premier's position is another question.

A LITTLE LATER, MAYBE

A wife paid a surprise visit to her husband's office and, creeping up behind him, put her hands over his eyes.

"Guess who it is?" she asked gleefully.

"Stop fooling," was the reply, "and get on with those letters!"

DAIRY PRODUCTS AND DIET

A large percentage of the world's population is undernourished, according to a survey made by the League of Nations. This condition persists in the face of an abundance of food. But the problem does not lie altogether with abundance. Selection of the proper foods for human consumption is of great importance. In proof of this may be cited the fact that the children of wealthy parents frequently suffer from rickets, which is a disease caused by lack of nourishment.

Milk is the essential diet of a vigorous people. Dairy products, wheat, oats and soy beans furnish a diet high in calcium, proteins and vitamins A and C. Dr. Henry C. Sherman of Columbia University says our average life span has been extended from four to five years because we drink six times as much milk as we did thirty years ago. De-vitalized food stunts a people and he cites the people of Glasgow, the puniest in all Europe, as evidence bearing out this statement. There was a time when the Scotch had the best physiques in all of Europe, but dietary changes have deteriorated the race.

Mongolians are rugged, huge giants mainly because of their diet of dairy products and soy beans. The rice-eating southern Chinese are puny in comparison. The Germans, among the most virile people in the world today, eat high-protein food.

A young country like Western Canada could easily develop a healthy, rugged, tall and stalwart race of people if parents were educated to follow a proper diet in supplying their families with food. Milk, butter and cheese should be the mainstay of such a diet, with abundance of bread, rolled oats, vegetables, and items containing vitamin A which build up resistance to disease. Most vitamins are found in the familiar cod liver oil preparations.

One thing produced in abundance is milk and milk products. A diet based on these will produce a vigorous long-lived people.

DELAY IN MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY

It seems a pity that the all-Canadian highway across the Rocky and Selkirk mountain ranges has not been completed. Work has been progressing for some years now on the "missing link"—the stretch from Golden to Revelstoke—but it seems that much more remains to be done.

The easiest and most convenient route to the coast now lies through the United States. Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington have splendid highways and prairie auto tourists, bound for British Columbia's coast, turn southward to take advantage of the excellent roads. Spokane, capital of the Inland Empire, figures it a poor year when a million Canadian dollars are not spent in its vicinity. Portland, Tacoma, Seattle and dozens of the smaller cities in the great U.S.A. Northwest profit greatly from Canadian tourists.

The new Canadian transmountain highway will change the line of travel and open new vistas of mountain scenery to the patriotic motorist. Idaho, Washington and Oregon have no mountain splendors such as our own Rockies reveal to the eye of the auto tramp. In fact the all-Canadian highway should attract thousands of motorists from the United States, to whom it will offer new scenes of infinite grandeur and variety.

The Canadian route goes west to Golden, loops northward around the Big Bend to Revelstoke and then hits the rehabilitated Caribou trail to Vancouver. When completed it will provide one of the most spectacular auto trips in North America.

WILLING

An itinerant musician was stranded in a village one Sunday morning, and, as he was playing his cornet in the street, he was approached by the clergyman of the parish, who said, "Do you know the Fourth Commandment, my good man?"

"No," the man replied, "but if you'll just whistle it over, I'll do my best."

SOME POST OFFICE!

According to the San Francisco Argonaut the deficit on the United States General Post Office operations last year will be over \$65,000,000. Postmaster-General Farley, of course, denies this.

The profit of the British General Post Office last year is exactly the alleged amount of the deficit of the American Post Office. This notwithstanding that 8,000 people have been added to the staff and the wages bill is \$15,000,000 higher than the year before.

Figures of the British postal service are astonishing. In 1935 it handled seven billion letters, also several billion newspapers, magazines and parcels. The annual revenue in \$4,500,000,000. Enormous as the mail traffic in London is you can post a letter to a friend "somewhere in London" at 8:00 o'clock in the morning and receive a reply in the evening.

The telephone system of Great Britain is operated by the Post Office. It handles 1,750,000,000 calls a year. The engineering technique has reached a point where 250 conversations can be carried over one wire at the same time without interference. The British postal telephone service tells subscribers the time, will call you at a certain hour in the morning if you notify exchange the night before, and will give you the weather forecast. Pretty good service, eh what?

This year \$15,000,000 will be spent on improvements. In 1914 telephone receipts were \$15,000,000; in 1935 they were \$135,000,000. In 1916 there were 2,000,000 miles of cable and telegraph wires; now there are 12,000,000 miles, 10,000,000 miles of which are underground, immune from storms.

The air mail has grown rapidly. Begun in 1919, only two tons of air mail were carried altogether. Last year it carried 7,000,000 letters and 80 tons of packages.

Motor trucks covered 65,000,000 miles a year. The Post office also owns a tiny railway underground from Paddington to the main office, about five miles. Mail is loaded on at each end and the train just automatically goes to its destination without a stop in a few minutes, thus saving the delays of transportation along crowded streets.

Then there is a savings bank department which handles about \$2,000,000,000 a year. Yes—some Post Office!—Ponoka Herald.

BUSINESS MEN

"Yes, father," said the oldest daughter, just back from college, "I'm sure you'll like Charles, he's a wonderful young man."

Father looked interested.

"Has he any money?" he demanded.

"Oh, Dad," said the girl, "you men are all alike. You're so curious. Charles asked me the same thing about you."

The Nicotine Fallacy

Is it the nicotine in tobacco that stains the hands, causes tobacco breath and affects the heart and lungs? May not these be attributed to the caloric effect of the half dozen chemicals added to raw tobacco? As a research authority Dr. Green not only supplies adequate answers, but he emphasizes the bold contention that nicotine in tobacco is actually destroyed by heat during the toasting process. In smoking, then, harmful or harmful?

By P. CHARLES GREEN, M.D. When tobacco smoke is inhaled into the lungs it has taken the most direct approach to the blood stream that is possible in a human being. This being so, what does the tobacco smoke contain and what effect will it have on the human system? The answer has been that the most important and most lethal poison in the smoke is nicotine. Always nicotine and only nicotine is held responsible for every untoward effect of tobacco smoking. If there is a rise in blood sugar after smoking a cigarette, it is held to be a laboratory question but the hundred odd symptoms that are supposed to be caused by smoking are all attributed to nicotine, to which are also attributed tobacco staining, tobacco odor, and tobacco breath. The truth is that nicotine causes none of these things. The one thing that research workers have overlooked is that in the smoke of some cigarettes there is absolutely no nicotine at all. In others it is present in a diversity of chemical forms that have not the slightest relation to the poison nicotine subject to blame.

Of the hundreds of investigations that have been reported in cigarette research not a single one has ever been scientifically correct. Because each started out by committing a fundamental error. This error is the failure to take into consideration the widely varying chemical composition of the different cigarettes.

The first chemical used in all packages of cigarettes is potassium chlorate for ignition. This chemical is not used in the "roll your own" or pipe tobacco, for the free access of the oxygen of the air would cause miniature explosions to take place. The second set of chemicals is used for adhesion and sweetening. They are gum arabic, licorice, starch and glucose products. The next set of chemicals are essential oils used for flavoring. Finally, glycerine is almost universally used as a moisture absorbing instrument.

When you make a formula from any or all of the chemicals, place the combination in a confined space, add a heavy moisture content of ten to twenty per cent of water and ignite, what happens? You get, as anyone can surmise, a widely varying array of chemical reactions, no two of which are alike. Therein is contained the first error in cigarette research, for every last cigarette will give you a different chemical combination and a different chemical result.

One of the results of all this chemical action on the tobacco vehicle is the destruction and change of the nicotine content in the cigarette. Heat will not only cause nicotine to be completely destroyed, it will also completely destroy it, so you start off by figuring that only 10 per cent of nicotine can reach the smoker and that never as the rancid nicotine sulphate of the laboratory, but as one of the twenty-five different varieties of nicotine which chemists have succeeded in isolating.

While in this instance we are only endeavoring to prove that nicotine is not the hand devil, it will be well to remember other poisons present in cigarette smoke: carbon monoxide, wood alcohol, pyridine, nitrous fumes and nicotine.

Then why is anyone able to smoke if any or all of these poisons are to be taken into the system? The answer is that one can not, if he were not for the air that is breathed into the lungs at the same time. With every puff of a cigarette a deeper breath is taken and, in the case of one who inhales, the depth of breathing is triple or more the ordinary breathing rate. Every physician knows Sir Humphrey Davy's classic experiment on himself. In testing out the effects of nitrous oxide with his electric candle he plugged, he was rendered unconscious after the second deep inspiration and almost died from the effects.

The next question is how much of the tar and of other deleterious ingredients is retained in the system when the smoke is exhaled. Dr. C. B. Buehler and Dr. Maria Kobl of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute of Biochemistry, Berlin, reported that not more than one-tenth of the wood alcohol inhaled was actually exhaled. Smoking of twenty cigarettes containing twenty grams of tobacco a

day, a smoker would inhale 40 mg. of wood alcohol, and this would not be particularly dangerous unless the smoker were afflicted with heart or lung disease.

Dr. Emil Bogen in the American Journal of Cancer stated that he found the tar residue in cigarettes to be 4.14 p.c. to 18.39 p.c. and that retained in the body 5.66 p.c. to 11.85 p.c. Cigarette manufacturers are not interested in these facts, they are interested in "Why bring that up?" The public does not know about it, so let sleeping dogs lie. The dogs, however, are beginning to awake, and the ones who are prodding them are the toothpaste manufacturers and other commercial agencies.

The study of cigarette smoke and its effects on the consumer is primarily a job for physicians and biochemists, but like all other jobs, if the fundamentals are neglected, the results are not accurate. If tobacco manufacturers were wise men instead of myopic business men they would welcome any research that would improve their product and at the same time protect the health of the consumer. Much rationalization of the problem is being worked out in England where the British Tobacco Control Board rightly censures chemicals that can be added to tobacco. A well-attuned smoker can tell the difference between Canadian, English and American cigarettes.

This article has been written in order to bring out the fact that not only does every brand of cigarettes differ in its chemical formula from every other brand, but cigarettes of the same brand may differ over a few months' time in manufacture. Furthermore that this chemical formula is the catalytic action of heat, moisture, and the inhaled air of the smoke may, and does change the smoke of the tobacco vehicle so that no nicotine may reach the lungs of the smoker.

What does reach the lungs of the smoker is tar, for it is absolutely impossible for any one to take even the lightest puff without some of that smoke being taken into the lungs. Wood every puff the smoker unconsciously takes a deeper breath, and the air that comes through the nose mixes with the smoke and so both the lungs and the same time. So much is this the case that if iodine is added to a cigarette and that cigarette smoked, an x-ray of the lungs will outline its presence clearly. Digest and Review.

Population Per Square Mile

The figures on the right are the densities of population per square mile for the respective countries. If Canada were as thickly populated as Belgium it would have a population of about 2,584,775,000, or about 500,000 more people than there are in the entire world.

Belgium	700.5
England and Wales	694.8
Netherlands	659.1
Japan	449.2
Germany	385.1
Italy	365.3
China	299.3
Poland	271.5
Portugal	250.1
Switzerland	241.9
Hungary	241.9
France	231.7
Austria	208.3
Rumania	163.7
Bulgaria	152.9
Yugoslavia	148.8
Greece	131.7
Canada	(approximately) 2.8

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Crew of "Queen Mary" Will Number Thousand

Includes 200 Seamen, Officers, Engineers and 800 Stowaways

LONDON.—The Cunard-White Star management has practically completed arrangements for the manning of the liner "Queen Mary". It is not surprising to learn that, having regard to her size, 73,000 tons, the giant liner will carry a larger crew than any other vessel in the British mercantile marine.

She will be commanded by Commander Sir Edgar T. Britten, with Captain George Gibbons as second-in-command. A. B. Jones, who has been in the service of the Cunard company for many years, will be chief steward.

The "Queen Mary" will have a crew of approximately 1,000—about 120 officers and seamen, 80 engineers and nearly 800 stowaways. In the case of an ocean passenger liner, the deck and engine-room staffs are respectively on the same numerical basis, regardless of whether the passengers are many or few.

With the stewards, however, the position is different. If the passenger complement falls very much below the liner's full capacity, the total of stewards is reduced accordingly. It happens sometimes that a liner out-bound from Liverpool or Southampton in the "off" season has, unfortunately, not so many passengers, but advance information from "the other side" may bring that a heavy passenger booking has been obtained for her return voyage. In that case the stewards taken out from England would be more numerous than needed for the outgoing passenger list. For her maiden voyage the "Queen Mary" has been booked up for a long time. Hence the need for the nearly 800 stowaways who will be engaged.

The Cunard-White Star liner Ma-jestic (45,500 tons) includes between 600 and 700 stowaways in her crew of nearly 900, and the Buregarra (52,101 tons) of the same fleet has, relatively, about the same total. Passenger liners in the Atlantic trade of about 20,000 tons register each carry a crew of from 350 to 400, of whom about 220 are stewards.—Calgary Herald.

No Use

A dealer wrote to a firm ordering a carload of merchandise. The firm replied: "Cannot ship until you pay for lost assignment."

"Unable to wait so long," wired the dealer; "cancel the order."

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EXTRACTS FROM OUR EXCHANGES

Thankless Task

We often wonder what prompts a man to permit himself to be ejected into serving on a municipal council. It is certainly not the remuneration; it is certainly not the prestige, attached to the office, for an otherwise quiet, inoffensive, good-living citizen becomes a social outcast, according to many of the party who don't try and justify in the district whenever he becomes a councillor. If he drags roads in the summer he is spending too much money. If he doesn't lead of initiative and interest is broadcast far and wide. If he opens roads for winter travel he is a fool; if he doesn't belong to an age and generation which should have no place in our modern up-and-coming world.—The Alliance Times.

Hopes Shot

All hopes of the temperance forces that the new "Catholic" government was going to give them anything was shot to pieces when the Liquor Act was up for revision at Edmonton this week. This is just one of the problems that a government in office must meet, and the present administration has held to the practical method of handling the traffic, as did their predecessors, for the revenue therefrom is needed and the public is used to the booze regardless.—Clareholm Local Press.

All Motorists Crazy?

In general, are all motorists crazy? In particular, is that famous motorist, Mr. Public, of sound mind? He is told to keep his mind on the road and when they put a car on the road, he is told not to drink while driving, then at the latest auto show they display a luxury model with a built-in cocktail bar. He is cautioned to drive slowly and then to be sure he is tempted to do otherwise they streamline his car for speed and stay up the horse power of his motor. The auto cooly say "watch them go by" (or is it by-by?)—Health Digest.

Object Lesson

Billy Gates has a rare picture in his office. It was taken once in the Flathead valley and shows two deer lying dead on the ground, their horns interlocked in a death hold. The animals were magnificent specimens of the black tail variety and had evidently died from exhaustion after a struggle in which their horns became interlocked and they were unable to release them. Billy aptly remarked that it might be a good idea to send copies of the picture to France and Germany at the present time. They might see the light.—Ferne Press.

Pun

The increased income tax put on by the present government at Edmonton makes the barkeeper feel they are being fined for reckless thriving.—The Blairmore Enterprise.

Jays of Being Editor

Getting out this paper is no picnic. If we print jokes people say we are too silly; if we don't we are too fond of our own stuff. If we don't print contributions, we don't appreciate true genius; if we do print them the paper is filled with junk. If we make a change in the other person's writing, we are too critical; if we don't we are asleep, or ignorant—or both. Now like as not some one will say we swiped this from some other paper. We did.

INSIDE THE EARTH NOT ON THE CRUST

Maniké dwells inside the earth, not on the outside, according to Prof. F. Ediger-Amico-Roxas, a young Italian-born scientist of Buenos Aires. The earth is a hollow sphere, he believes, and man lives on the inner concave surface of the crust. Sun, moon and planets are in the hollow interior. In the centre is a solid mass, the stellophone, and what we think are stars are bright spots on the surface of the stellophone, according to the scientist.

Amico Roxas compares this universe with an egg. The crust of the earth corresponds to the shell, the atmosphere to the skin, the interior planetary space to the white and the centre nucleus to the yoke.

The sun, moon and planets, and the central stellophone turn inside the earth, which does not move. The sun is not a hot gaseous body and does not take the form conceived by present-day astronomers. The sky presents an interior cosmic projection which gives off cold and invisible radiations, which through atomic friction in the atmosphere, produce light and heat.—The Gateway.

What Pain Signifies

The physician who tells a patient that he has the seat of the disease. It is common for disorders of our organs to be associated with pain in some relatively distant part of the body. Such pains are called "referred," and their recognition is highly important in the detection of internal maladies. Some examples will make this clear. In angina pectoris (a severe form of heart disease) pain is experienced near the sternum, in the left arm to beyond the elbow; in dyspepsia, pain may be felt in the pit of the stomach or in the middle of the back. In liver affections, the pain is often referred to in the region of the right shoulder; in hip joint disease, the pain is generally first felt in the knee.

Chinese Wheat Crop

Chinese 1935 wheat crop is pretty much a failure, according to information from Nanking. It is estimated the total yield will be well under 500 million bushels, which is possibly 50 per cent of normal production and it is reported that the Orient has been buying wheat of late weeks, but export shipments are not in evidence save for an occasional cargo.

Russia's Wheat Acreage

Acreage under wheat in Russia this year totals 34,788,000, according to the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. Last year the acreage was 32,560,000 and the average for the last five years 27,124,000 acres. It is quite manifest that Russia is not exporting wheat at the expense of the domestic consumers as she has done in past years. Food is much more plentiful in the Soviet than for many years.

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THE COLD WINTER

Pretty soon everyone will be forgetting that we had a cold winter. Before it is too late to refer to it, one should quote the Regina Leader Post, whose reporters scoured round to get statements from old timers, comparing this winter with winters of the past. The interviews were as follows:

Beta Peters, Lemon Hill, Sask.: "She sure stayed down pretty steady in January, but it ain't nothing to what it was in '92. I was hauling cordwood from the valley that winter and the wood right to the sled right so that we had to burn the rack because we couldn't get it away from the wood. Yes, sir, that was a cold winter and the next summer we had a great crop of wheat, mosquitoes and bill collectors."

Benish Bentley, Spruce Crk, Sask.: "Weather, did you say? Yep, I see it's pretty cold all right, but not like it was back in '92, when I was riding herd west of Wood Mountain. Me and Ike Weaver shot a buffalo bull that winter and the son-of-a-gun was forcing two buffalo coats. And, by cripes, he needed them."

Ira Swatford, Moose Mountain: "To tell you the truth, young feller, I think she's been pretty cold the last couple of weeks. It pretty near from my mother-in-law stuff in January, but we didn't notice much change in her. But I was out one day a couple of weeks ago, and I sure would have froze my ears off if it hadn't been that I had froze them off completely back in the cold winter of 1907. Having no ears now, and knowing enough to keep my nose out of other people's business, I get along pretty well now, winter and summer. Good day."

Henry Woolbottom, Goose Gulch, Sask.: "Weather? What weather? Cold weather? Who cares? I ain't been out of the house since Christmas. If you're looking for weather, go outside and get it. I'm staying in.—High River Times.

HOW KING GEORGE DISLIKED OSTENTATION

King George, loathed ostentation and publicity where his private activities were concerned. A certain farm manager on one of the royal farms bought a bull at a very high price. It swept the board at all agricultural shows. Finally it was sold at an even higher price. The king said nothing until the animal had gone. Then, one Sunday afternoon, on his usual walk around the farms, he enquired if they had not bought some rather expensive cattle recently.

The farm manager agreed. But, he added, the bull had been very prize and had been sold at a good profit. "Understand this," the king replied, "I farm as an ordinary farmer and exhibit my beasts in competition with other farmers. They can't pay high prices and neither will I. As for winning prizes by paying large sums for beasts, any Hibernian can do that. I won't."

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